

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE POLICY DIRECTIVE 60-1
February 8, 2002

Information Technology

TECHNICAL AND CONTENT REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNET SERVERS

NOTICE: This publication is available at: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives>.

OPR: P. Weiss

Certified by: CIO (C. Staton)

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SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: Supersedes "NWS Guidelines on Server Content for Internet Use," September 5, 1996.

1. Policy. NWS data and products form a national information data base and infrastructure which can be used by other governmental agencies, the private sector, the public, and the global community. NWS will utilize the Internet's World Wide Web presentation tools and technologies, where applicable, to ensure timely and cost effective access to all users of NWS information and to make NWS information more easily accessible and useful to the public.

Each Regional and Office Director is responsible for implementing the technical and content requirements of this Directive.

2. Technical Requirements. All NWS World Wide Web presentations will:

2.1. Use the presentation templates and graphics provided on the NWS WWW Developers Page.

2.2. Follow applicable Government-wide, Departmental and NOAA standards or policies.

2.3. Follow applicable standards for accessibility by persons with disabilities. Web pages should be constructed without sole reliance on graphics in order to support accessibility technologies, text-only or low access speed clients. For example, an image map with imbedded links should be accompanied by an alternative means of accessing the links.

2.4. Include software for monitoring utilization

2.5. Not use persistent "cookies" to collect user/use information.

2.6. Provide adequate security via a server under the supervision of an officially identified NWS Information Technology Security Officer. Services provided by or shared with a partner (e.g. other federal agency) or commercial service under contract will have security in place and enforced which is equivalent to DOC, NOAA, and NWS IT security requirements.

3. Content Requirements. All NWS World Wide Web presentations will include:

3.1. A disclaimer.

3.2. A privacy notice.

3.3. Contact information for the web master for technical feedback, and for the individual(s) responsible for page content.

3.4. The date of last update to the page.

3.5. E-mail and public feed-back functions.

3.6. Features which clearly notify the user they are leaving NWS (e.g. “jump pages”) for all links to non-Federal government sites.

3.7. Such other content as may be required by Government-wide, Departmental or NOAA directives.

4. The NWS Chief Information Officer will issue Procedural Directives as necessary to effectively implement this Policy Directive.

<u>Signed</u>	<u>2/8/02</u>
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Assistant Administrator	
for Weather Services	

